



# Division of Air Quality

Draft Amendments to Delaware's Inspection and Maintenance  
Programs Workshop

May 25, 2022

# Presentation Overview

- Overview of the program.
- Why do we have vehicle inspection programs.
  - Kent and New Castle Counties
  - Sussex County
- Clean Air Act highlight.
- Current programs requirements.
- Draft amendments to the programs.
- Waiver policy.
- Reason for draft amendments.
- Benefits of the draft amendments.



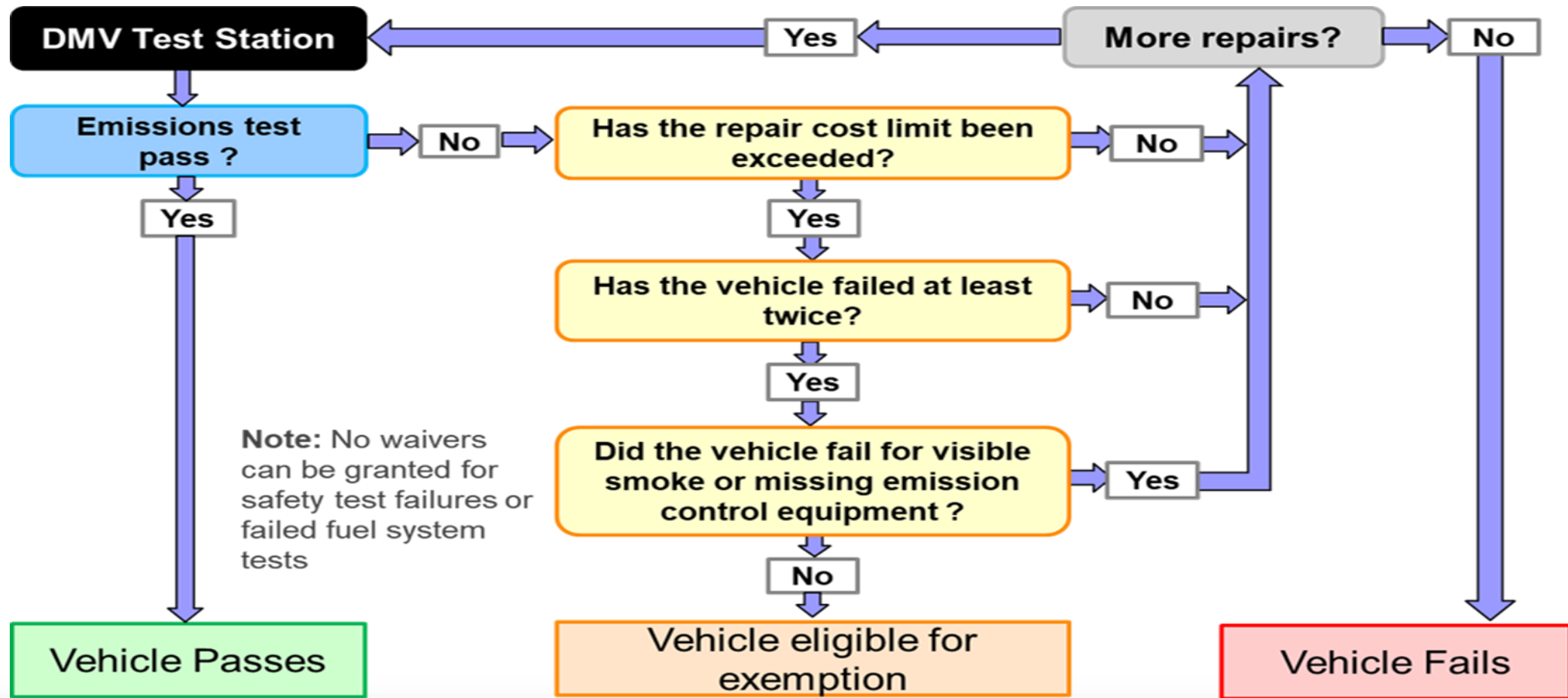
# Overview of Inspection and Maintenance Program

- Inception of program in 1983.
- All vehicles are required to I/M testing every 2 years except the five (5) newest model years
- Vehicles not meeting the standards are subject repaired and retested before they can be registered for a vehicle tag
- Repairs are required to be made by Certified Emissions Repair Technicians (CERT)

# Current I/M Testing Program

Vehicle Year	Test Type	Counties
1967 & older	No emission test	All Counties
1968 – 1980	Curb Idle	All Counties
1975 –1980	Curb idle, Gas Cap	K/NCC (SC Curb idle only)
1981 – 1995	Two-speed idle (TSI), Gas Cap, Visual check for converter	K/NCC (SC Curb idle only)
1996 - newer	OBD II on vehicles up to 8,500 lbs. GVWR	K/NCC
Model Year Exemption	5- year Exemption	5- year Exemption (All Counties)

# I/M Program Testing Procedures



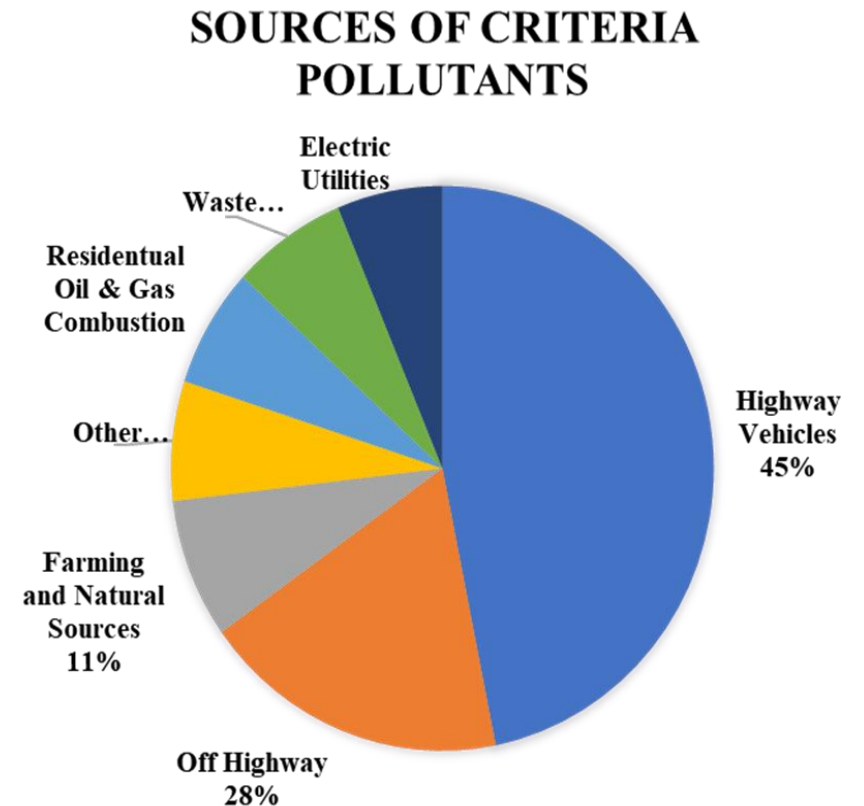


# Reasons for Draft Amendments...

- On September 21, 2017 Governor Carney signed House Bill 246.
- This extension necessitates updates to DNREC's:
  - Low Enhanced Emissions Inspection and Maintenance Program (Regulation 1131)
  - Basic I/M program in Sussex County (Regulation 1126 Motor Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program)

# Cont'd Reason for Draft Amendments

- 45% of Delaware's air pollution can be attributed to highway vehicles.
- Cars emit several pollutants of concern including:
  - Hydrocarbons (HCs)
  - Nitrogen Oxide (NOx)
  - Carbon Monoxide (CO)
  - Volatile Organic Compound (VOCs)
  - Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5 and 10





# Draft Amendments Overview

- DNREC's Division of Air Quality is proposing amendments to Delaware's Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program to:
  - Expand number of vehicles require for testing
  - Change the older vehicle testing requirements
  - Require OBD test to Sussex County
  - Strengthen Anti-tampering language, and
  - Phased-in repair cost for vehicles receiving inspection waiver in Sussex County.

# Kent, New Castle and Sussex Counties- Draft Amendments to the I/M Program

Vehicle Year	Proposed Test	Counties
1967 & older	No emission test	All Counties
1968 – 1974	Curb Idle	All Counties
1975 –1980	Curb idle, Gas Cap	All Counties
1981 – 1995	Curb idle, Gas Cap, Visual check for converter	All Counties
1996 - newer	OBD II and Increase GVWR from 8,501 lbs. up to 14,000 lbs.	All Counties
Model Year Exemption	7- year Exemption	All Counties

# Current Repair Threshold

- Current cost of repair for obtaining an exemption from the vehicle emission testing:
  - All Counties- spend at least \$75 (1968-1980)
  - Sussex County - \$200 (1981 and newer vehicles)
  - Kent and New Castle Counties - \$949\*

\*EPA requires this amount to increase annually ( 40 CFR 51.360 (a)(7))

# Current Waiver Policy for All Counties

## Delaware Emissions Testing Waiver Policy:

- Applies to all model years between 1968 and 1980.
- Applies to models 1981 or newer registered in Sussex County which are greater than five years old.
- Spend a fixed amount on emissions-related repairs which increases on a yearly basis in Kent and New Castle Counties.

# Proposal for Waiver Exemption Cost for Sussex County Vehicle Owners

## Option 1

2023 - 2024 - \$200  
2025 - 2026 - \$450  
2027 - parity with  
Kent and New Castle  
Counties



## Option 2

2023 - 2026 - \$450  
2027 – parity with  
Kent and New  
Castle Counties



## Option 3

2027 Immediate  
parity with Kent and  
New Castle Counties



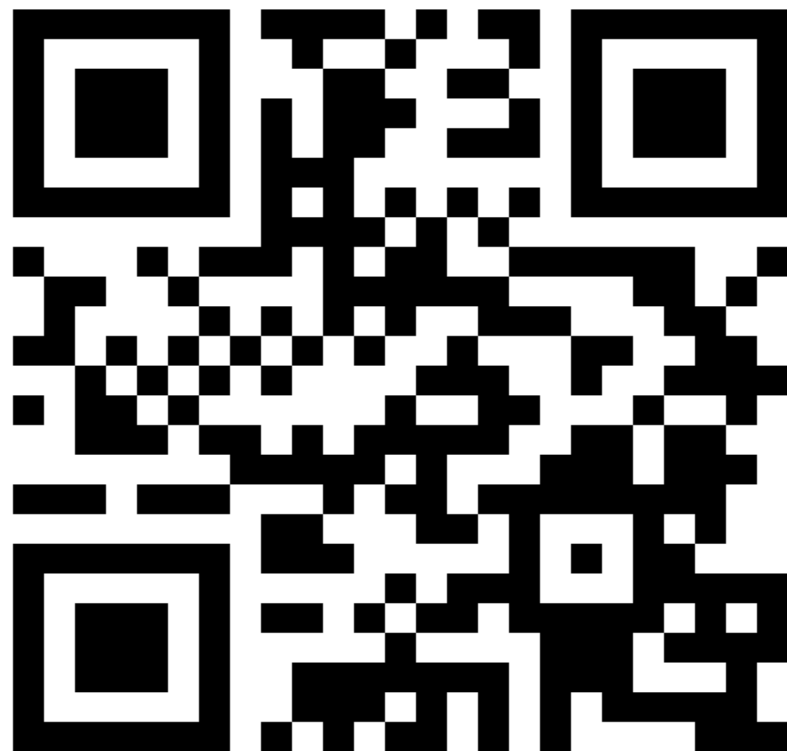
# Benefits of Draft Amendments

- Aligns with Delaware's air quality goals
- Reduction in emissions from vehicles
- Reduction of pollutants that can cause harm to humans and the environment
- Mechanism to ensure the dirtiest vehicles in Delaware's fleet get repaired.



# Survey link

<https://directpoll.com/r?XDbzPBd3ixYqg8lhyEfxSmCVtNGb3OngMmDe5c4>





**Contact information:**

**Marvina Cephas**  
**(302)739-9402**

**[Marvina.Cephas@delaware.gov](mailto:Marvina.Cephas@delaware.gov)**

Written comments will be taken through COB, June 8, 2022.  
<https://dnrec.alpha.delaware.gov/air/permitting/under-development/>